

R E M A R K S

Concerning Item No. 1 at the top of page 2 of the Office Action, the specification was amended to correct the spelling of "hydroxyl" on page 20, line 4.

The amendment to claims 1, 8 and 9 is supported by the paragraph bridging pages 8 and 9 of the specification.

Claims 1 to 4 and 8 to 17 were rejected under 35 USC 112, first paragraph, for the reasons set forth in Item Nos. 3 and 4 on page 2 of the Office Action.

Claims 1, 8 and 9 were amended to avoid the 35 USC 112 rejection.

It is therefore respectfully submitted that the present claims comply with all the requirements of 35 USC 112.

With respect of Rule 116, entry of the amendments is respectfully submitted, since the amendments serve to reply to a 35 USC 112 rejection set forth in the Office Action. Moreover, it is considered that the amendments place the application in condition for allowance.

The withdrawn claims were canceled hereinabove. Applicants reserve the right to file a Divisional application directed to the withdrawn claims.

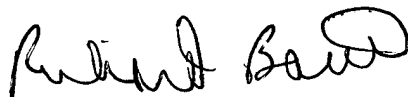
Appl. No. 09/829,061
Reply to Office Action dated September 11, 2003

The Office Action did not include any prior art rejection of claims.

Reconsideration is requested. Allowance is solicited.

If the Examiner has any comments, questions, objections or recommendations, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the telephone number given below for prompt action.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard Barth", written in a cursive style.

Richard S. Barth
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